

**RUSHVILLE CITY COMMON COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2006**  
**6:00 P.M.**

The Rushville City Common Council met on the above date and time at 270 West 15th Street, Rushville, Indiana. Mayor Bridges called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., with Chris Fields, Darrin McGowan, John Byrne, and Mike Pavey answering roll call. Councilman Sheehan entered the meeting after the roll was called. Also present were City Attorney, Julie Newhouse, and Starr Shuppert, *Rushville Republican*.

**MINUTES \* \* \***

Minutes of the January 17, 2006 meeting were presented for approval. Byrne made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Fields seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**MAYOR'S REPORT \* \* \***

Mayor Bridges reported the following:

- The City Attorney prepared a letter to the owners of the billboards south of town informing them that the boards must be down by 3/31/07, pursuant to their contract. Byrne made a motion to go ahead and sent the letter. McGowan seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Next month Council will be asked to consider annexation of property owned by Rush Renewable Energy. According to Ice Miller we must reinstate the economic development board, which was enacted in 1973 under the administration of Raymond Gibson, but has become inactive. This is different from the redevelopment commission, and has different responsibilities. The City Council has one appointment to the board, as does the Mayor and the County Council. A copy of the ordinance was distributed defining the authority of the board and who may be considered to fill the position.
- We have reached a tentative agreement with the Chamber of Commerce to sponsor a series of concerts for the 2006 season. The concert series will begin on May 23 with Jenny DeVoe. The last concert will be September 30 and will be in conjunction with the Chamber's Rush Fest celebration. I will keep Council and the public informed as new acts are confirmed.
- Passed out a letter from the Rush County Fiber Optic Board, which was also addressed to Council. The letter is requesting all

governmental bodies to consider board realignment. I have spoken with a few of the board members who were present at the meeting and they agreed this was the consensus of those present at the meeting. Please read the letter and make any comments to either your appointment to the board or to myself.

**CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT \* \* \***

None.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT REPORT \* \* \***

None.

**SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT \* \* \***

The committee discussed a proposed truck route for "local" truck traffic. The route would follow 3<sup>d</sup> Street to Fort Wayne Road to 11<sup>th</sup> Street to Benjamin Street. Fields moved to approve the local truck route. Sheehan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS \* \* \***

**Police** – Williams passed out a monthly report.

**Park** – Mathews invited everyone to the Valentine dance on Friday from 6:00–8:00 p.m., at the Benjamin Rush Middle School. Chaperones are needed.

**Code Enforcement** – Harmon said he has been working on 6 articles that will appear in the newspaper one week apart. The topics for the articles are:

1. Overview of the Code Enforcement Program
2. Exterior Property Areas and Premises Maintenance
3. Exterior Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs
4. Motor Vehicle Regulations
5. Minimum Interior Housing Standards
6. Fire Safety Requirements

**CITIZEN CONCERNS \* \* \***

Councilman Fields said he had a suggestion from Ed Newkirk. Newkirk suggested with the newly annexed area to rename State Road 3 South to Main Street South. He also suggested renaming a portion of 52 to Cincinnati Avenue.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS \* \* \***

**Fiber Update** – Randy Frye said he received back some surveys that were very positive with a good deal of interest from the business community for Phase II. Council asked how much money the City needed to come up with for Phase II. Frye said it would be somewhere just under 1 million dollars. He was hoping that the City and County would consider funding this together. Frye also mentioned that they would also consider a lease.

Sheehan said that he thought this could almost be considered a separate utility. Pavey made a motion to have the Mayor contact Crowe Chizek to research possibilities for funding for the project. Sheehan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Fields moved to allow Blue River to construct a hut in the parking lot of the Police Department. Sheehan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Annexation Claims** – Byrne made a motion to approve the annexation claims as presented. Fields seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jeff Peters informed Council that with the elimination of three grinder stations and making gravity sewers instead there would be a savings of approximately \$33,000.00.

**NEW BUSINESS \* \* \***

**CF1 BBR Vision** – Duane Reindle asked Council to consider approving the Compliance for Statement of Benefits for BBR Vision. Sheehan made a motion to approve the CF1. Fields seconded the motion. Motion carried with Councilman Byrne voting nay.

**Insurance Renewal** – Mandrell presented the renewal for the medical insurance. He said there were no major changes. The buy up plan had an

increase of approximately 5% and the core plan had an approximate 7% increase.

Mandrell also introduced a Health Savings Account with a high deductible for single of \$2,650.00 and a deductible of \$5,250 for a family. This would also include no co-pays for office visits or pharmacy. Mandrell said the insurance committee recommended to introduce the HAS this year and present employees with plenty of education on the program with the thought of offering it next year.

Sheehan moved to accept the recommendation of the Board with the slight increase and also stated that he was very thankful to the insurance committee for their work. Byrne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Request for Improvement of Access Easement** – Jeff Peters asked Council to consider improvement to the access easement at the Rush Mobile Home Park. He said they thought it would be better to put pavement down to the access instead of stone. Byrne made a motion to approve the pavement to the access easement. Fields seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Hackelman Drain Issue** – Bridges received a letter from Marvin Rees to extend the open drain to US 52. Byrne made a motion to approve the extension of the drain with a maximum of a \$350.00 assessment that the City will be responsible for. Pavey seconded the motion. Motion carried with Councilman Sheehan voting nay.

**City Curb Replacement** – Bennett said there has been some interest in a curb replacement program. He has a line item of \$8,000.00. \$8,000.00 would replace approximately 1 side of one city block.

**City Auction** – Bridges said after speaking with the Department Heads he believes there are enough items for a city auction. Fields made a motion to have a city auction this spring. Byrne seconded the motion. Motion carried. Bridges told the Department Heads to get a list of items to him.

**Animal Shelter Roof** – Hill presented a quote for a roof for \$8,243.00. Fields moved to approve the quote for the roof. Byrne seconded the motion. After discussion, Fields rescinded his motion. Byrne made a motion to allow the roof, but to get 2 more quotes and not to exceed \$8,243.00 for the roof. Pavey

seconded the motion. After discussion, Byrne rescinded his motion. Byrne then made a motion to accept the \$8,243.00 quote for the roof. Pavey seconded the motion. Councilmen Fields and Sheehan voted nay to the motion. Councilman McGowan had left the meeting. This brought a tie vote. Mayor Bridges then broke the tie by voting in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

**Claims** – Byrne made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Fields seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There was no further business to come before Council, Byrne made a motion to adjourn. Pavey seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

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ROBERT M. BRIDGES, MAYOR

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CHRISTOPHER S. FIELDS, MEMBER

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DARRIN L. MCGOWAN, MEMBER

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JOHN M. BYRNE, MEMBER

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BRIAN J. SHEEHAN, MEMBER

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MICHAEL P. PAVEY, MEMBER

ATTEST:

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ANN L. COPLEY, CLERK-TREASURER